# **NOTICE OF FILING**

# TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC. ("TESI")

## APPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN RATES AND CHARGES

#### FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES

#### **DOCKET NO. 2004-90-W/S**

Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. (TESI) has filed an application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina requesting approval of a new schedule of rates and charges for water and sewerage service provided to its customers in Foxwood Hills, a resort community, located in Westminster, Oconee County, South Carolina. This application is made pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. Sec 58-5-210 *et seq.*, R.103-514.4, R.103-712.4 and R.103-834.

The Company has requested an increase in its rates and charges due to increased operating expenses, plant upgrades and the increased cost of purchasing potable water.

# A copy of the proposed rates and charges is attached

A copy of the application is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210; and is available from John F. Beach, Esquire, **ELLIS, LAWHORNE & SIMS, P. A.**, P.O. Box 2285, Columbia, SC 29202.

A public hearing will held in Columbia, South Carolina, in the offices of the Commission at the above address, for the purpose of receiving testimony and other evidence from all interested parties regarding this application. The time and date of this hearing will be furnished to all interested parties at a later date.

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify in writing, Mr. Bruce F. Duke, Executive Director, at the address below and John F. Beach, Esquire at the above address, on or before May 21, 2004. *Please refer to Docket No. 2004-90-W/S*.

Any person who wishes to present his views, but is unable or does not wish to appear and testify at the hearing may do so in writing on or before **May 21, 2004.** Please refer to **Docket** No. 2004-90-W/S.

Any person who wishes to participate in the hearing as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before May 21, 2004. Please refer to Docket No. 2004-90-W/S.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5113.

#### BRUCE F. DUKE

Executive Director Public Service Commission of S.C. P. O. Drawer 11649 Columbia, S. C. 29211

# TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC.

## SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED RATES AND CHARGES

**AVAILABILITY:** Available within the Company's service area.

**APPLICABILITY: Residential** rates apply to all lots within the Company's service area upon

which either a dwelling or one or more of its appurtenances is permanently

affixed or located.

**RV** rates apply to all RV lots within the Company's service area upon which either a dwelling or one or more of its appurtenances is not permanently affixed or located.

**Commercial** rates apply to any commercial or master-metered residential customer for any purpose.

**Commercial/Condominium** applies to any condominium complex within the Company's service area. Commercial customer is provided with a single monthly bill based upon the number of condominium units in the applicable complex multiplied by the applicable per-unit rate set forth below.

# **WATER:**

RATES		<b>MONTHLY</b>
Residential	Per Lot	\$62.55
RV	Per Lot	\$62.55
Commercial	Per TAP	\$99.35
Commercial/Condominium	Per Unit	\$62.55

# **NONRECURRING CHARGES:**

# <u>CONNECTION FEE (New Customer)</u> \$250.00 per Residential or RV Lot, Condominium Unit, or SFE\*

This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials, associated with establishing the initial service connection.

<u>PLANT IMPACT FEE (New Customer)</u> \$400.00 per Residential or RV Lot, Condominium Unit, or SFE\*

# RE-CONNECTION FEE \$250.00 per Residential or RV Lot, Condominium Unit, or SFE\*

This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials, associated with re-establishing service after disconnect for non-payment, failure to make deposit, fraudulent, or seasonal use. Customers who ask to be reconnected within ten months of disconnection will be charged the monthly utility rate for the service period they were disconnected. The Reconnection Fee shall also be due prior to reconnection if sewer service has been disconnected at the request of the customer.

The nonrecurring charges listed above are minimum charges and apply even if the equivalency rating of a customer is less than one (1). If the equivalency rating of a customer is greater than one (1), then the proper charge may be obtained by multiplying the equivalency rating by the

appropriate fee. These charges apply and are due at the time new service is applied for, or at the time connection to the water system is requested.

## **ADMINISTRATION FEE**

\$45.00

This charge is to cover the administrative cost of re-establishing service upon a change of customer where service has previously been established.

#### **SERVICE CHARGE**

\$20.00 during business hours \$35.00 after business hours

This charge is to reimburse the Company for costs associated with sending a company repairman to a consumer's premises at the customer's request when the trouble is found to be in the costumer's house piping.

#### **DEPOSIT**

Company may require a customer deposit up to the maximum amount allowed by applicable South Carolina Statue and/or South Carolina Public Service Commission Rule.

# **LATE PENALTY CHARGE**

Company may charge a late-payment penalty up to the maximum amount allowed by applicable South Carolina Statue and/or South Carolina Public Service Commission Rule.

# **NSF CHECK CHARGE**

Company may charge an NSF check charge up to the maximum amount allowed by applicable South Carolina Statue and/or South Carolina Public Service Commission Rule.

#### **BILLING OF TENANTS**

The Utility will, for the convenience of the owner, bill a tenant. However, all arrearages must be satisfied before service will be provided to a new tenant or before interrupted service will be restored. Failure to pay for services rendered to a tenant may result in service interruptions.

#### **CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS:**

The Utility requires all construction to be performed in accordance with generally accepted engineering standards, at a minimum. The Utility from time to time may require that more stringent construction standards be followed.

# **EXTENSION OF UTILITY SERVICE LINES AND MAINS**

The Utility shall have no obligation at its expense to extend its utility service lines or mains in order to permit any customer to connect to its water system. However, anyone or any entity which is willing to pay all costs associated with extending an appropriately sized and constructed main or utility service line from his/her/its premises to any appropriate connection point, to pay the appropriate fees and charges set forth in this rate schedule, and comply with the guidelines and standards hereof, shall not be denied service, unless water supply is unavailable or unless the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control or other government entity has restricted the Utility from adding for any reason additional customers to the serving water system. In no event will the Utility be required to construct additional water supply capacity to serve any customer or entity without an agreement acceptable to the Utility first having been reached for the payment of all costs associated with adding water supply capacity to the affected water system.

\* A Single Family Equivalent (SFE) shall be determined by using the South Carolina Department of Environmental Control Guidelines for Unit Contributory Loadings for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facilities -- 25 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-67 Appendix A (2003 Supp.)

## **SEWER:**

RATES		<b>MONTHLY</b>
Residential	Per Lot	\$60.17
RV	Per Lot	\$60.17
Commercial	Per Tap	\$72.56
Commercial/Condominium	Per Unit	\$60.17

# **NONRECURRING CHARGES:**

# **CONNECTION FEE (New Customer)** \$400.00 per Residential or RV Lot, Condominium Unit, or SFE\*

This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials, associated with establishing the initial service connection.

PLANT IMPACT FEE (New Customer)	\$400.00 per Residential or RV Lot,
	Condominium Unit. or SFE*

# RE-CONNECTION FEE \$400.00 per Residential or RV Lot, Condominium Unit, or SFE\*

This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials, associated with re-establishing service after disconnect for non-payment, failure to make deposit, fraudulent, or seasonal use. Customers who ask to be reconnected within ten months of disconnection will be charged the monthly utility rate for the service period they were disconnected. The Reconnection Fee shall also be due prior to reconnection if sewer service has been disconnected at the request of the customer.

The nonrecurring charges listed above are minimum charges and apply even if the equivalency rating of a customer is less than one (1). If the equivalency rating of a customer is greater than one (1), then the proper charge may be obtained by multiplying the equivalency rating by the appropriate fee. These charges apply and are due at the time new service is applied for, or at the time connection to the water system is requested.

#### ADMINISTRATION FEE \$45.00

This charge is to cover the administrative cost of re-establishing service upon a change of customer where service has previously been established.

# SERVICE CHARGE

\$20.00 during business hours \$35.00 after business hours

This charge is to reimburse the Company for costs associated with sending a company repairman to a consumer's premises at the customer's request when the trouble is found to be in the costumer's house piping.

## **DEPOSIT**

Company may require a customer deposit up to the maximum amount allowed by applicable South Carolina Statue and/or South Carolina Public Service Commission Rule.

#### LATE PENALTY CHARGE

Company may charge a late-payment penalty up to the maximum amount allowed by applicable South Carolina Statue and/or South Carolina Public Service Commission Rule.

## **NSF CHECK CHARGE**

Company may charge an NSF check charge up to the maximum amount allowed by applicable South Carolina Statue and/or South Carolina Public Service Commission Rule.

#### **BILLING OF TENANTS**

The Utility will, for the convenience of the owner, bill a tenant. However, all arrearages must be satisfied before service will be provided to a new tenant or before interrupted service will be restored. Failure to pay for services rendered to a tenant may result in service interruptions.

# TOXIC AND PRETREATMENT EFFLUENT GUIDELINES

The Utility will not accept or treat any substance or material that has been defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") or the South Carolina Department of Environmental Control ("DHEC") as a toxic pollutant, hazardous waste, or hazardous substance, including pollutants falling within the provisions of 40 CFR §129.4 and §401.15. Additionally, pollutants or pollutant properties subject to 40 CFR §403.5 and §403.6 are to be processed according to the pretreatment standards applicable to such pollutants or pollutant properties, and such standards constitute the Utility's minimum pretreatment standards. Any person or entity introducing any such prohibited or untreated materials into the Company's sewer system may have service interrupted without notice until such discharges cease, and shall be liable to the Utility for all damages and costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, incurred by the Utility as a result thereof.

# **CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS:**

The Utility requires all construction to be performed in accordance with generally accepted engineering standards, at a minimum. The Utility from time to time may require that more stringent construction standards be followed.

#### EXTENSION OF UTILITY SERVICE LINES AND MAINS

The Utility shall have no obligation at its expense to extend its utility service lines or mains in order to permit any customer to discharge acceptable wastewater into one of its sewer systems. However, anyone or any entity which is willing to pay all costs associated with extending an appropriately sized and constructed main or utility service line from his/her/its premises to an appropriate connection point, to pay the appropriate fees and charges set forth in this rate schedule and to comply with the guidelines and standards hereof, shall not be denied service, unless treatment capacity is unavailable or unless the South Carolina Department or Health and Environmental Control or other government entity has restricted the Utility from adding for any reason additional customers to the serving sewer system.

In no event will the Utility be required to construct additional wastewater treatment capacity to serve any customer or entity without an agreement acceptable to the Utility first having been reached for the payment of all costs associated with adding wastewater treatment capacity to the affected sewer system.

\* A Single Family Equivalent (SFE) shall be determined by using the South Carolina Department of Environmental Control Guidelines for Unit Contributory Loading for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facilities --25 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-67 Appendix A (2003 Supp.)

# **MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES:**

# **THEFT OF SERVICE**

Unauthorized connections or reconnections will be subject to a \$500 Theft of Service Charge. Company may terminate all service until this charge is paid in full. In the event of such termination, service reconnection will also be subject to any applicable tariff charges, including but not limited to Connection Fees.

# **TAMPERING**

Individuals tampering with Company facilities without Company permission will be subject to a \$250 Tampering Charge, in addition to any other applicable tariff charges. If the individual tampering with Company facilities is a Customer, or is doing so on behalf of a Customer, Company may terminate all service to Customer until this charge is paid in full. In the event of such termination, service reconnection will also be subject to any applicable tariff charges, including but not limited to Connection Fees.